## **AMENDED CLAIMS**

[received by the International Bureau on 10 November 2004 (10.11.04); Claims: 1-24 are as originally filed; claims: 26 and 27 are amended and renumbered as 25 and 26 (1 page);]

23. A background training method for an acoustic echo canceller included in a peripheral device, the peripheral device capable of implementing audio applications and further including at least one of a Universal Serial Bus (USB) interface and a IEEE 1394 interface for connecting to a computer capable of implementing at least one of a conferencing application and a telephony application, the method comprising the step of:

receiving sound from the computer via at least one of the USB interface and the IEEE 1394 interface, the sound corresponding to a non-training audio application;

utilizing the sound that corresponds to the non-training audio application to train the acoustic echo canceller in the peripheral device; and

performing echo canceling, during at least one of the conferencing application and the telephony application implemented by the computer, using the acoustic echo canceller in the peripheral device.

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- 24. The method of claim 23, wherein the non-training audio application is an application that, at the least, includes audio, and was not designed solely for the purpose of training the acoustic echo canceller.
- 25. The method of claim 23, wherein the sound that corresponds to the non-training audio application is a notification of a pre-specified event unrelated to training of the acoustic echo canceller.
- 26. The method of claim 25, wherein the pre-specified event is one an incoming call, an incoming e-mail message, an upcoming conference, an upcoming meeting, an error, a warning, a request for an input.